

# ADOPTION CONSIDERATION PROCEDURE

## Purpose

The Adoption Mission is *"to improve the lives of suffering animals by practicing compassion and kindness."* To accomplish this mission all staff and volunteers adhere to a set of Values, which are published on our Web Site. "Customer Service Excellence" is our value that ensures we understand and meet the needs of suffering animals that have been saved. This procedure is designed to provide the best match of pet, to loving human companion. We thank you for your patience and understanding.

## Procedure

1. The person wishing to adopt the dog/cat must fill out an adoption questionnaire. We do not do third party adoptions.
2. Once the adoption questionnaire is completed, the adoptee will be interviewed by a designated Adoption Counselor.
3. The Adoption Counselor will review the questionnaire and interview the adoptee. This is an important step because the Adoption Counselor has knowledge of the pet's disposition and needs. The Counselor is responsible for matching the pet with the right loving human companion. Staff and volunteers have made financial and emotional investments in the rescued pets. **PLEASE DO NOT CONSIDER THIS A PERSONAL EVALUATION.** It is a needs assessment of the pet, **not you**. Our goal is to find the best match for a healthy and happy long-term relationship.

For example: some pets are good with other pets, others are not; some are good with children, some are not; many pets must remain inside; some dogs dig under fences and others climb fences; some pets have separation anxiety and will destroy your home when left alone.

4. If the adoptee is considered a good match, a yard/home check will be conducted prior to signing the adoption contract. **You must have a secure, fenced in yard at the time of adoption.**
5. Only a spay/neutered pet will be released to the adoptee. If an animal has not been spay/neutered, then the adoptee will be able to pick up their pet from a veterinarian's clinic once this procedure has been done. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**
6. When the contract has been signed and a charitable donation has been paid, to cover adoption fees, the animal and his medical records will be released to the adoptee.
7. The adoptee will give visitation rights to ensure that the terms of the adoption agreement are being observed.
8. **DOG TRAINING:** IF you adopt a dog, we strongly recommend you attend obedience training to learn how to manage your pet's behavior. Our years of experience have proven dogs want to please you. Training will provide you the skills needed to understand your dog, which will ensure years of enjoyment.